

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: ) Express Mail No. EL683236860US  
Keith Lamont Ferguson )  
Serial No. (unknown) ) February 21, 2002  
Filed Herewith )  
IMAGE CODING )  
US National Stage of PCT/GB00/03156 )  
International Filing Date August 17, 2000 )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified patent application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 1-25.

Please add new claims 26-100 as follows: